

Plant-Wide Assessment Summary—Forest Products

Industrial Technologies Program — Boosting the productivity and competitiveness of U.S. industry through improvements in energy and environmental performance

\$707,000 in Savings Identified in Boise Cascade Assessment

Boise Cascade Corporation and its partners applied a systematic plant-wide assessment (PWA) approach to identify energy- and cost-saving opportunities at the corporation's mill in International Falls, Minnesota. The assessment team identified \$707,000 in potential annual savings with a 3-year payback period.

The International Falls mill produces 1,500 tons per day of finished paper from four paper machines, and uses approximately 35 million gallons of water per day. The assessment team's comprehensive strategy focused on reducing effluent heat and conserving water. The team identified a total of seventeen potential projects to assist in effluent reduction. Of these, the team recommended four projects and two process modifications, including rerouting turbine room steam-trap condensate, and capturing and reusing heat from the foul condensate stream to heat demineralized water makeup to the hotwells.

Implementation of these six recommendations would save a total of 28,100 pounds per hour of steam, 2.2 million gallons of effluent water flow per day, and remove 45.6 million British thermal units (MMBtu) per hour of heat from the effluent. The assessment team estimated that these measures would save \$707,000 annually, with an aggregate payback period of 3 years.

DOE funded the assessment at \$75,000 and required at least a matching amount from Boise Cascade. The table below highlights the overall savings opportunities identified.

Boise Cascade International Falls Assessment

Cost savings	\$707,000/year
Steam savings	28,100 pounds/hour
Effluent flow reduction	2.2 million gallons/day
Effluent heat reduction	45.6 MMBtu/hour
Payback period	3 years

Project Partners

Boise Cascade Mill
International Falls, MN

American Process, Inc.
Atlanta, GA

Conduct your own Plant-Wide Assessment

DOE Information Clearinghouse
Phone: (800) 862-2086
Fax: (360) 586-8303
clearinghouse@ee.doe.gov

Industrial Technologies Program
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585-0121

Respond to annual PWA solicitations:
www.oit.doe.gov

For technical details, visit:

www.oit.doe.gov/bestpractices/factsheets/boise.pdf
www.oit.doe.gov/bestpractices/case_studies_pwa.shtml

Or, contact:

Bob Leach, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Phone: (865) 946-1352
E-mail: leachre@ornl.gov



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Plant-Wide Energy Assessments

Plant-wide energy assessments (PWAs) investigate overall energy use in industrial facilities—energy use can account for 10% or more of an industry's total operating costs. PWAs also highlight opportunities for best energy management practices for industry, including the adoption of new, efficient technologies. The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy's Industrial Technologies Program works with companies to identify energy-saving projects that can be replicated in other facilities and industries for multiplied savings. On average, the findings from a single assessment can be replicated multiple times—often ten times or more—at other facilities with equivalent systems and energy use. For a relatively low initial investment, companies that participate in assessments can realize a minimum of \$1 million in savings annually from diminished energy costs, reduced waste, and increased productivity—usually with a payback of less than 18 months. For more information, visit www.oit.doe.gov/bestpractices/assessments.shtml.

The Industrial Technologies Program publishes a case study for each completed PWA. The case studies describe how the companies have conducted plant-wide assessments to achieve energy and cost savings, improve productivity, and reduce environmental impacts. You can help your company replicate these savings by learning about and implementing the cost- and energy-saving projects identified in these case studies. Frequently, projects can be replicated across many industries. Find out which projects could benefit your company! To learn more, visit www.oit.doe.gov/bestpractices/case_studies_pwa.shtml.

Annual Savings Opportunities Identified Through Plant-Wide Energy Assessments

3M	\$1,094,000	Corning	25,920,000
Akzo Nobel	1,170,000	Equilon Enterprises	52,500,000
Alcoa (alumina production)	1,072,000	Ford	3,280,000
Alcoa (aluminum extrusion)	1,974,000	Georgia-Pacific Crossett	9,600,000
AMCAST	3,600,000	Inland Paper	9,500,000
Anchor Glass Container	1,638,000	Metlab	518,000
Appleton Paper	3,459,000	North Star Steel	2,640,000
Bayer	1,478,000	Utica Corporation	1,880,000
Boise Cascade	707,000	Weyerhaeuser Longview	3,100,000
Caraustar	1,280,000	WR Grace	840,000

Additional Assessment Opportunities

Small- to medium-sized manufacturers, with annual energy bills between \$100,000 and \$2 million, may be eligible to receive energy assessments by university-based Industrial Assessment Centers (IAC.) These IAC's are located at 26 universities located throughout the country. Teams of engineering faculty and students from the Centers conduct energy, waste-reduction, and productivity-improvement audits, and then provide recommendations to manufacturers. Manufacturers must meet certain minimum requirements, which include appropriate manufacturing NAICS codes that fall within the energy-use range. Recommendations from industrial assessments have averaged \$55,000 in potential annual savings for each manufacturer. For more information, visit www.oit.doe.gov/iac/.

A Strong Energy Portfolio for a Strong America

Energy efficiency and clean, renewable energy will mean a stronger economy, a cleaner environment, and greater energy independence for America. Working with a wide array of state, community, industry, and university partners, the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy invests in a diverse portfolio of energy technologies.